



General Assembly

**Substitute Bill No. 5482**

February Session, 2008

\* \_\_\_\_\_ HB05482LAB \_\_\_\_\_ 030508 \_\_\_\_\_ \*

**AN ACT INCREASING THE WAGE THRESHOLD FOR CHARGING AN  
EMPLOYER'S ACCOUNT UNDER THE UNEMPLOYMENT  
COMPENSATION SYSTEM.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General  
Assembly convened:

1       Section 1. Subdivision (1) of subsection (c) of section 31-225a of the  
2       2008 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following  
3       is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2008*):

4       (c) (1) (A) Any week for which the employer has compensated the  
5       claimant in the form of wages in lieu of notice, dismissal payments or  
6       any similar payment for loss of wages shall be considered a week of  
7       employment for the purpose of determining employer chargeability.  
8       (B) No benefits shall be charged to any employer who paid wages of  
9       two thousand five hundred dollars or less to the claimant in his base  
10      period. (C) No dependency allowance paid to a claimant shall be  
11      charged to any employer. (D) In the event of a natural disaster  
12      declared by the President of the United States, no benefits paid on the  
13      basis of total or partial unemployment which is the result of physical  
14      damage to a place of employment caused by severe weather conditions  
15      including, but not limited to, hurricanes, snow storms, ice storms or  
16      flooding, or fire except where caused by the employer, shall be  
17      charged to any employer. (E) If the administrator finds that (i) an  
18      individual's most recent separation from a base period employer  
19      occurred under conditions which would result in disqualification by

20 reason of subdivision (2), (6) or (9) of subsection (a) of section 31-236 of  
21 the 2008 supplement to the general statutes, or (ii) an individual was  
22 discharged for violating an employer's drug testing policy, provided  
23 the policy has been adopted and applied consistent with sections 31-  
24 51t to 31-51aa, inclusive, section 14-261b of the 2008 supplement to the  
25 general statutes and any applicable federal law, no benefits paid  
26 thereafter to such individual with respect to any week of  
27 unemployment which is based upon wages paid by such employer  
28 with respect to employment prior to such separation shall be charged  
29 to such employer's account, provided such employer shall have filed a  
30 notice with the administrator within the time allowed for appeal in  
31 section 31-241. (F) No base period employer's account shall be charged  
32 with respect to benefits paid to a claimant if such employer continues  
33 to employ such claimant at the time the employer's account would  
34 otherwise have been charged to the same extent that he employed him  
35 during the individual's base period, provided the employer shall  
36 notify the administrator within the time allowed for appeal in section  
37 31-241. (G) If a claimant has failed to accept suitable employment  
38 under the provisions of subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of section 31-  
39 236 of the 2008 supplement to the general statutes and the  
40 disqualification has been imposed, the account of the employer who  
41 makes an offer of employment to a claimant who was a former  
42 employee shall not be charged with any benefit payments made to  
43 such claimant after such initial offer of reemployment until such time  
44 as such claimant resumes employment with such employer, provided  
45 such employer shall make application therefor in a form acceptable to  
46 the administrator. The administrator shall notify such employer  
47 whether or not his application is granted. Any decision of the  
48 administrator denying suspension of charges as herein provided may  
49 be appealed within the time allowed for appeal in section 31-241. (H)  
50 Fifty per cent of benefits paid to a claimant under the federal-state  
51 extended duration unemployment benefits program established by the  
52 federal Employment Security Act shall be charged to the experience  
53 accounts of the claimant's base period employers in the same manner  
54 as the regular benefits paid for such benefit year. (I) No base period

55 employer's account shall be charged with respect to benefits paid to a  
56 claimant who voluntarily left suitable work with such employer (i) to  
57 care for a seriously ill spouse, parent or child, or (ii) due to the  
58 discontinuance of the transportation used by the claimant to get to and  
59 from work, as provided in subparagraphs (A)(ii) and (A)(iii) of  
60 subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of section 31-236 of the 2008  
61 supplement to the general statutes.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
---	--	--

Section 1	October 1, 2008	31-225a(c)(1)
-----------	-----------------	---------------

**LAB**      *Joint Favorable Subst.*